

Message Text

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45

ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 699

CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS BANGKOK 18471

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TH, VS

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN ON THAI-SOUTH VIETNA-
MESE RELATIONS AND INDOCHINA MAP/MASF EQUIPMENT

FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI GAVE AN INFORMAL PRESS CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 2. THE FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL USIS TRANSLATION
OF CHATCHAI'S REMARKS ON VISITING SOUTH VIET-NAM AND ON INDOCHI-
NA MAP/MASF AIRCRAFT.

BEGIN EXCERPT:

REPORTER: WHEN WILL A THAI MISSION GO TO SOUTH VIETNAM?

CHATCHAI: SOUTH VIETNAM HAS EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO ME ALREA-
DY AND I HAVE ACCEPTED IT, BUT I HAVE NO TIME TO GO YET. FUR-
THERMORE, I AM WAITING FOR BETTER TIMING, BECAUSE SOUTH VIETNAM
IS NOT ORDERLY YET.

REPORTER: WHAT ABOUT THE ISSUE REGARDING PLANES, SHIPS, AND
EQUIPMENT, WHICH WAS BROUGHT HERE?

CHATCHAI: ONLY A LOT OF SCRAP IRON. WHOEVER IS THE OWNER AND
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HAS PROOF OF OWNERSHIP CAN TAKE IT AWAY. BUT WHOEVER TAKES IT

AWAY MUST PAY FOR RENT OF THE SPACE IN WHICH IT WAS KEPT. I
HOPE IT IS TAKEN AWAY BECAUSE IT IS A NUISANCE AND CLUTTERS
SPACE THAT COULD BE USED.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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